一新穎膜型鳥?酸環化?受體 G 在生殖系統所扮演的角色功能性分析

Functional Characterization of a Novel Receptor Mouse Guanylyl

Cyclase G (mGC-G) in Reproduction System

中文摘要

Y本實驗室在小鼠睪丸中新發現受體型 guanylyl cyclase,命名為 mGC-G。 爲了研究其蛋白表現,我們使用抗 extracellular domain (ECD) 之抗體中和 mGC-G 作用。由 RT-PCR 與免疫組織染色證實 mGC-G 的 mRNA 與蛋白主要 表現在睪丸中的精細胞(spermatid)與精子(spermatozoa); mGC-G 也表 現於卵巢中的濾泡細胞與卵。利用流式細胞儀與共軛聚焦顯微鏡顯示 mGC-G 位於精子細胞膜上,分佈在頂體與尾部中段(midpiece)。有趣的是,利用西方 墨點法(western blot)顯示睪丸中的 mGC-G 分子量約為 180 kDa,而精子 被運輸至附睪後 mGC-G 被水解成分子量約為 48 k Da 的蛋白,而表現於成熟 精子上。本論文的重點在於研究 mGC-G 的生理功能。我們分別利用體外的細 胞實驗與 mGC-G 基因剔除鼠來做近一步探討:(一) 體外細胞培養實驗部份, 我們使用抗 ECD 之抗體 (anti-ECD Ab) 來中和 mGC-G 作用而達到抑制的效 果。精子受到牛的血清蛋白(BSA)刺激而活化,產生[Ca2+]i上升,蛋白質 磷酸化(protein tyrosine phosphorylation), 泳動力增加。預先與 anti-ECD Ab 培養的精子,再加入 BSA 刺激後,其[Ca2+]i 上升,蛋白質磷酸化(protein tyrosine phosphorylation), 泳動力增加等現象皆受到明顯的抑制。(二) 建 立 mGC-G 基因剔除鼠來更進一步研究 mGC-G 在活體內的功能, mGC-G-/-小鼠發育並無明顯異常,然而在自然狀況下的生育力, null mice 互相交配顯示 其生殖力受到抑制。而在體外授精 (in vitro fertilization)的實驗中, null mice 的排卵數量與野生型無明顯差異,但 null 公鼠精子與 null 母鼠卵子結合,其受 精比例明顯下降。綜合以上研究結果顯示,mGC-G表現在睪丸中的精細胞與精 子,而在運送到附睪末端後 mGC-G 受到水解修飾,表現於成熟精子細胞膜上。 在生理活性的部份,mGC-G可能參與精子之訊息傳遞,影響精子之泳動力,與 [Ca2+]i 調控及磷酸化現象的產生有關。而將 mGC-G 的基因剔除,造成 mGC-G 基因剔除鼠生育力受損,顯示 mGC-G 在生殖生理的訊息傳遞上扮演重 要的角色。

英文摘要

We recently identified a novel testis-enriched receptor guanylyl cyclase (GC) in the mouse, designated mGC-G. To further investigate its protein expression and function, we generated a neutralizing antibody specifically against the extracellular domain of this receptor. Reverse transcriptase (RT)-PCR and immunohistochemical analyses

show that mGC-G is predominantly expressed from round spermatids to spermatozoa in mouse testis at both mRNA and protein levels. In female genital tract, mGC-G also has a significant expression in granulosa cell and zona pellucida in the ovary by immunohistochemistry. Flow cytometry and confocal immunofluorescence reveal that mGC-G is a cell-surface protein restricted to the plasma membrane overlying the acrosome and the midpiece of the flagellum in mature sperm. Interestingly, Western-blot analysis demonstrates that testicular mGC-G harbors an apparent molecular mass of approximately 180 kDa, but is subject to a limited proteolysis during epididymal sperm transport, resulting in a smaller fragment tethered on mature sperm surface. By utilizing Fluo-3 cytometrical analysis and computer-assisted sperm assay, we found that albumin-induced elevation of sperm [Ca2+]i level, protein tyrosine phosphorylation associated with capacitation and progressive motility are markedly reduced by pre-incubation of the anti-mGC-G neutralizing antibody. To further characterize mGC-G fuction in vivo, we generate mGC-G knock-out mice. Preliminary results show that the fertility of mGC-G null mice is reduced both in vivo and in vitro. Together, this study provides evidence that mGC-G is proteolytically modified in mature sperm membrane and suggests that mGC-G-mediated signaling may play a critical role in gamete/reproductive biology.